

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A conductive belt comprising:

an electroconductive base layer made of a resin;

an ionic-conductive intermediate layer made of an elastomer; and

a surface coating layer,

wherein a tensile modulus of elasticity of said base layer is set to not less than 500 Mpa,
and a volume electric resistance value thereof is ~~adjusted to~~ not less than $10^6 \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ nor more than $10^{11} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$; [[and]]

said intermediate layer is formed on an upper surface of said base layer, has a JIS A hardness less than 70, a thickness not less than $50 \mu\text{m}$ nor more than $600 \mu\text{m}$, and a volume electric resistance value not less than $10^8 \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ nor more than $10^{14} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$;

said intermediate layer is composed of a polyurethane elastomer containing a polyol containing polypropylene glycol or/and a hydroxyl-terminated liquid rubber moiety as a main component thereof and an aromatic moiety or/and a polyol moiety; and

said surface coating layer is made of a rubber, an elastomer, or a resin.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The conductive belt according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein said polyurethane elastomer contains the polypropylene glycol polyol containing a hydroxyl-terminated liquid rubber moiety as the main component thereof and said aromatic moiety.

4. (Previously Presented) The conductive belt according to claim 1, wherein a thickness of said base layer is not less than 20 μ m nor more than 400 μ m; and said surface coating layer is non-electroconductive, has a thickness of not less than 1 μ m nor more than 50 μ m; and a volume electric resistance value of not less than 10¹⁰ Ω ·cm nor more than 10¹⁵ Ω ·cm.

5. (Previously Presented) The conductive belt according to claim 1, wherein said ionic conductive intermediate layer further contains an electroconductive agent so that the intermediate layer has electroconductivity,

wherein that a volume electric resistance value of said intermediate layer to which said electroconductivity is auxiliarily imparted is indicated by R at a voltage of 500V, a temperature of 23 °C, and a relative humidity of 55%; a volume electric resistance value of said intermediate layer not containing said electroconductive agent is indicated by R1 at the voltage of 500V, the temperature of 23 °C, and the relative humidity of 55%; and $\text{Log}(R) - \text{Log}(R1) = \text{Log}(R2)$,

said electroconductive agent is contained in said elastomer in a condition of $0.1 \leq \text{Log}(R2) \leq 5$.

6. (Original) The conductive belt according to claim 1, wherein said intermediate layer contains a reactive flame-retardant compound.

7. (Previously Presented) The conductive belt according to claim 1, wherein said conductive belt is a seamless belt that is used as an intermediate transfer belt of a copying apparatus, a printer, or a facsimile.

8. (Original) The conductive belt according to claim 1, wherein said base layer is composed of a centrifugally molded seamless belt substrate; said intermediate layer is formed on a surface of said base layer by applying a material to said surface of said base layer and hardening said material; and said surface coating layer is formed on a surface of said intermediate layer by applying a material to said surface of said intermediate layer and hardening said material.

9. (Original) The conductive belt according to claim 1, wherein said base layer is composed of a seamless belt substrate by applying said seamless belt substrate by a dispenser and drying and hardening said seamless belt substrate while said seamless belt substrate is being rotated; said intermediate layer is formed by applying a material to a surface of said base layer by said dispenser and drying and hardening said material while said material is being rotated; and said surface coating layer is formed on a surface of said intermediate layer by applying a material to said surface of said intermediate layer and hardening said material.

10. (Previously Presented) The conductive belt according to claim 1, wherein said tensile modulus of elasticity of the base layer is not less than 1000 MPa.

11. (Previously Presented) The conductive belt according to claim 1, wherein said thickness of the intermediate layer is 100 to 400 μm .

12. (Previously Presented) The conductive belt according to claim 1, wherein a thickness of the base layer is 50 to 300 μm .

13. (Previously Presented) The conductive belt according to claim 1, wherein a thickness of the surface coating layer is 3 to 30 μm .